

Do not enter  
OK 4/12/05

Applicant : Joseph A. Zupanick  
Serial No. : 10/630,345  
Filed : July 29, 2003  
Page : 2 of 13

Attorney's Docket No.: 17601-043001 / 067083.0205

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-25 (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method for drilling a well in a coal seam, comprising:  
pumping a drilling fluid comprising a liquid down a drill string to a bit drilling a  
substantially horizontal well bore in a coal seam; and  
reducing downhole pressure exerted by the drilling fluid in the substantially horizontal  
well bore.

27. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising reducing  
down-hole pressure exerted by the drilling fluid by lightening the hydrostatic pressure of the  
drilling fluid.

28. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising reducing  
down-hole pressure exerted by the drilling fluid by gas lift.

29. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising reducing  
down-hole pressure exerted by the drilling fluid by aerating the drilling fluid.

30. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising reducing  
down-hole pressure exerted by the drilling fluid by circulating compressed air and mixing the air  
with the drilling fluid.